

Message Text

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ACTION OES-02

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIS JA
SUBJECT: U.S./JAPAN GIFA NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 005810

1. SUMMARY. FISHATT MET JANUARY 12 WITH MATSUURA TO DISCUSS GIFA AND ESPECIALLY SALMON ISSUE. MATSUURA WILL TODAY DO HIS BEST TO OBTAIN FULL GOJ APPROVAL TO PROPOSE ONLY LIMITED GESTURE BY USG ON SALMON TO EFFECT THAT CONSULTATIONS WILL BE HELD RE FISHING IN AREAS WHERE SPECIES INTERMINGLE. FORN MINISTRY OFFICIALS ARE STRONGLY URGING THAT WE AGREE TO SOME SUCH GESTURE WHICH THEY CONSIDER ESSENTIAL TO DIET APPROVAL.
END SUMMARY.

2. MATSUURA TOLD FISHATT TODAY HE FULLY UNDERSTANDS USG POSITION ON SALMON AND NEED TO ACCOMMODATE WISH OF KEY CONGRESSIONAL OFFICIALS, REGIONAL COUNCILS AND U.S. INDUSTRY. AT A MEETING LATER TODAY HE WILL PROPOSE TO OTHER GOJ OFFICIALS ACCEPTANCE OF OUR STANDARD GIFA LANGUAGE IN ARTICLES II AND IV PROVIDED USG CAN ACCEPT LANGUAGE IN ARTICLE VI STATING THAT, IN THE AREA OF INTERMINGLING OF NORTH PACIFIC SALMON, CONSULTATION OR DISCUSSIONS (HIS PREFERENCE IS CONFIDENTIAL

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CONSULTATION) WILL BE HELD BY THE USG WITH THE GOJ WITH A TACIT UNDERSTANDING THAT JAPAN COULD FISH SALMON OF ASIATIC ORIGIN. THE USE OF THE WORD ASIATIC, HOWEVER, WOULD BE AVOIDED IN GIFA TEXT.

3. THERE IS A STRONG ELEMENT IN THE GOJ THAT WISHES TO HOLD TO ARTICLE 55 LOS. MATSUURA COULD NOT PREDICT

OUTCOME OF MEETING. LANGUAGE DEVELOPED AT THIS MEETING WILL BE FORWARDED BY GOJ TO THEIR EMBASSY, WASHDC LATE TODAY OR TOMORROW. HE REQUESTED THAT THE ABOVE BE HELD IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE AND NOT REVEALED TO JAPANESE EMBASSY FOR FEAR THAT OUR KNOWLEDGE OF HIS MODERATE POSITION WOULD BE OF GREAT EMBARRASSMENT TO HIM. HE REITERATED THAT ACCOMMODATING LANGUAGE OF SOME NATURE NEEDED IN ARTICLE VI TO INSURE PASSAGE IN DIET AND TO INSURE THAT POSITION VIS-A-VIS USSR NOT COMPROMISED. THIS IS IN KEEPING WITH ASAON COMMENTS TO DCM SEVERAL DAYS AGO TO THE EFFECT THAT JAPAN ABSOLUTELY MUST HAVE SOME ACCOMMODATION BY USG ON THE SALMON ISSUE. A REPORT OF DCM DISCUSSIONS WITH ASAON WERE POUCHEO TO OES AND SHOULD HAVE ARRIVED BY NOW.

4. ASKED IF HE THOUGHT IT NECESSARY FOR LEGAL EXPERT FROM USG TO VISIT JAPAN, MATSUURA SAID THAT THIS WOULD DEPEND ON NEW LANGUAGE BEING PROVIDED BY USG ON THE SHORT TERM AGREEMENT. HE MENTIONED THAT SINCE THE ATTENTION OF FISHING INDUSTRY AND GENERAL PUBLIC IN JAPAN HAS SHIFTED FROM GIFA TO QUOTA ALLOCATIONS AND FEES, IT MIGHT BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO SHIFT ATTENTION BACK TO GIFA. EMBASSY BELIEVES WE SHOULD ACCEDE TO GOJ ADVICE ON AMOUNT AND TYPE OF PUBLICITY SHOULD LEGAL EXPERT BE SENT.

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